"APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR COALESCING BITUMEN IN AN OIL SAND SLURRY"

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An aqueous aerated oil sand slurry is conditioned in a pipeline and then spun within an elongate vessel of circular cross-section, to cause bitumen droplets in the slurry to coalesce. This increases the probability that the droplets will become aerated by contact with air bubbles. The slurry is then subjected to separation of the sand and bitumen.